

# 2ND BATTALION, 7TH MARINES

AUGUST 1, 2011

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3

## *Commander's Commentary*

Dear Families and Friends of the Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 2/7,

I hope this communication finds each of you in the best of health and spirit. It has been an action-packed, fast-paced, and hard-working 30 days since our last newsletter was published. The results of these efforts have solidified our ability to meet the demands and challenges our Battalion Landing Team (BLT) will face in the months to come. In true Marine Corps fashion, and in keeping with those that have served in our storied battalion in past history, our current warriors have done them proud in their efforts with the 31st MEU.



### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

I know it comes as no surprise to anyone that our pace since arriving on Okinawa was fast and furious, as it seems to be the only way we know how to do business, but the Marines and Sailors have done a phenomenal job maintaining flexibility in accomplishing every task that comes their way.

Back home the Family Readiness Team continues to grow and we welcome all newcomers as we work to grow a support network that you can truly call your own. No one is alone while your Marine or sailor is deployed and many others are experiencing the exact same thing as you are, so please do not hesitate to reach out, network and find help when you need it most. There are a ton of resources out there for you, so I ask you to remind yourself that you are not alone - BLT 2/7 is a family and we take care of our own.

And on a final note . . . Thank you! Thanks for all you do. This is a team effort. We cannot do what we do without your help and support. It is reassuring to know that things are going well and problems are being handled in the rear so we can focus on the fight to our front. This is critically important and you have to know how important your role is in all this. Thank you for all your amazing support; the mail, the packages, and all your thoughts and prayers. Take care of one another as families always do.

Semper Fidelis!

Don Tomich  
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC  
Commanding Officer

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## *Chaplain's Chosen*

Dear 2/7 families and friends,

In many of the interactions I've had with 2/7 Marines, Sailors and family members, I've recommended a book by Dr. Gary Chapman called *The Five Love Languages*. In this book, Dr. Chapman looks at ways in which we interact with our loved ones and suggests simplified ways of understanding how we "give" and "receive" love. He simplifies ("Barney style") ways for us to understand our loved one's words and actions *as they intended them*. But, he also helps us understand our own manner of expressing our feelings and emotions (or lack thereof).

I've read it at least a couple of times myself... so... I completely understand the eye-rolling, the smirks, and the "macho-man" reflexive repulsion that ensues after reading the title or some of the language like "filling each other's love tank." I get it. Trust me. But, for all you eye-rollers out there, try to believe me (a recovering eye-rolling macho man) when I say that this book is a very good tool for your "relationship toolbox" (yeah... I said "relationship toolbox." I told you I'm recovering).

Get past the title and the introduction and ignore the "fru-fru" language so that you can get into the main teaching of the book. Keep an open mind and think about the recommendations and concepts of the book as "starting point suggestions." You can customize its teaching to fit the uniqueness of your individual relationships and... remember... you don't have to actually *say* stuff like "*love tank*" out loud.

Because it is a simplified view of communication, this book is of tremendous benefit as a starting point in better understanding each other. So, read it... use it... live it... *love* it. Use it as a method of "feeling closer" to each other while you're away from each other by committing to read it "together" while you're apart.

Dr. Chapman has variations of the book... *The Five Love Languages of Children... of Teenagers... of Singles... of Apology...* You can commit to better understanding all your loved ones and finding ways to show them more effectively how much you care... or even *that you care* if you've been neglecting to do so in the past.

However, if any of you think that reading a book is going to "fix everything," ...let's get together and talk. Relationships, no matter what kind - marriage, dating, sibling, parental, friendships - all take time and effort to grow and flourish. The more time and effort you are BOTH willing to put into a relationship, the more the relationship will benefit. In the immortal wisdom of Rob Base and DJ E-Z Rock... "it takes two to make a thing go right. It takes two to make it outta sight."

Seriously though, relationship = work. Both sides have to be committed to the effort, the compromise, and the balance between forgiveness and holding each other accountable.

There's an old joke... "How do you get to Carnegie Hall? - Practice, practice, practice." Andrew Carnegie was the steel tycoon, philanthropist and entrepreneur for which Carnegie Hall is named. He's often quoted as having said "anything in life worth having is worth working for." Perhaps anything in life worth having is worth working HARD for. How much are your relationships worth? ...worth the effort? ...worth working hard for?

Don't be naïve or macho enough to think that we're just supposed to excel at relationships... especially in a military environment. Do the work. Put in the effort. ...practice, practice, practice. And, remember that it takes two... both of you... to make a thing go right.

Blessings,  
Chaps

Chaplain Anthony D. Stallings  
LT, CHC, USN  
2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Marines





## *FRO's Fountain*

Dear Families and Friends of BLT 2/7 Marines and Sailors,

I hope that you are all doing well during this deployment. The Family Readiness Team has been busy with planning upcoming events. Just to give you an idea of some of the fun stuff that is happening, Walk to Okinawa has reported to have completed 1,220 miles, wow! You can track the progress by visiting the website at <http://walktookinawa.webnode.com/>. Summer time can be a little boring in the desert. That's why it's important to Get Out of The Hole and do something fun! Get Out of The Hole and join other families on monthly outings. This month, we will be hosting a Kid's-n-the-Midst event which we are calling it our "Summer Stand Down". Also this month we will have a few Beyond the Brief workshops which include Self-Defense and Coping with Deployment.

I know that you are all getting ready for Return and Reunion but first we should celebrate our halfway mark. In an effort to make this a memorable halfway celebration, 2/7 will be hosting the first Death by Chocolate event in September. This will be a murder mystery game in which you will have to apply your skills as a top notch sleuth while attempting to solve the crime. In this audience interactive game you can have dinner with and quiz the possible murderer, the soon-to-be-victim, and potential suspects with their own motives. I am currently seeking some Star Performers to be characters for this event. If you have performed in the past.....yes elementary school counts as previous experience.....or you would like to try acting, please contact me so that I can assign you a character. We will need at least 8-10 characters in order to make this a successful fun game. So even if you are not open to being a character, please try to come to the event to try something new, laugh, witness a crime, nosh on some chocolate goodies, and help solve a mystery!

Look for more fun things to come during this deployment! I will continue to send you emails, so please make sure that you take time to read the email messages and attachments. They are not just informative but contain import key dates for upcoming events. As always, I'm here to assist you and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Warmly,

Carrie A. Johnson  
Family Readiness Officer

Carrie A. Johnson  
Family Readiness Officer  
Office 760-830-5872  
Work Cell 760-910-5219  
[carrie.a.johnson@usmc.mil](mailto:carrie.a.johnson@usmc.mil)

## *Family Readiness Team*

### ADVISORS

Kathleen Tomich	CO's Advisor
Jenifer Woods	SgtMaj's Advisor
Tracy Hanson	Battalion Advisor
Laura McKenzie	Echo Company
Leanne Frederiksen	Fox Company
Brenda Eadie	Golf Company
Taissa Hayden	H&S Company
Sable LeBlanc	Kilo Battery

### Assistants

Nichole Lee  
Sabrina Salcido  
Erin Tavernier

### Morale Welfare Volunteers

Jennifer Juarez  
Niki Philpott

### **Emergency call OOD**

760-830-5866

### **Red Cross Emergency**

877-272-7337

### **Informational Hotline**

800-759-7602 option 2 or  
760-830-1538 option 2

## *L.I.N.K.S.*

**L.I.N.K.S. for Spouses:** Aug 9th & 11th (Tues, Thurs) 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

L.I.N.K.S. Mentor Training: Aug 23rd & 25th (Tues, Thurs) 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

L.I.N.K.S. for Parents: Sep 3rd (Sat) 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Childcare is provided with advance registration. Call LINKS at (760) 830-1696 for more information.



## Headquarters and Service Company

**H&S Family Readiness Advisor**  
Taissa Hayden

Family and Friends of H&S,

We are now entering our second month of deployment in Okinawa, Japan as a part of the 31<sup>st</sup> MEU and your Marines performance has already been admirable. Through your Marines' tireless efforts, the Battalion was able to embark over 600 Marines and sailors aboard two ships without an incident. The professionalism shown by all H&S Marines has been impressive and you should be proud of the hard work that your Marines have put in for the Battalion.

We are now pushing forward with an aggressive training plan focused on preparing our Marines for promotion and professional development. While aboard Camp Hansen your Marines will be participating in MCMAP, HMMWV driver courses, and Combat Lifesaver courses just to name a few. In addition to training the Company plans on offering opportunities to see the island of Okinawa and some of the historic sites. They will complete all of these while still supporting the rest of the Battalion and its training efforts while maintaining the ability to deploy anywhere in the Pacific at a moment's notice.

I am proud to be the H&S Company Commander and be a part of the hard work and long hours that our Marines put in from day to day. There is a rich history of the Marine Corps on the island of Okinawa and many Marines that have come before gave their lives for this ground. I encourage you to learn more about the significance that the Marine Corps played in taking this island in WWII. Your Marines continue to uphold that honor.

Semper fidelis,  
1stLt P. M. Mayhugh  
Commanding Officer  
Headquarters and Service Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines

### BLT Mailing Address

(Rank and name)  
2/7 H&S CO  
Unit 41545  
FPO AP 96609-1545



H&S Family,

As the main body completes the first full month of the deployment, your Marines have settled nicely into their temporary homes. They are living as comfortable as to be expected, given their current living arrangements. As I tour the living quarters, creature comforts I notice are the gaming consoles, very nice televisions, computers complete with high speed internet, etc. Marines truly make the best of any situation. The end of June pushing into the beginning of July was a very busy time for the Marines and Sailors of H&S. The majority of H&S was embarked only for a short time aboard the USS Essex. We were there just long enough for your Marines to be sick of the long lines for chow, long lines for the ship's cash cards, and being confined to only certain areas of the ship. Remaining flexible is a large part of what we do as Marines and your Marines never missed a beat while various changes were thrown their way. While back here on the island, we will maximize the amount of time we have for training. This will accomplish a few goals for us: The more we train here, the less we have to accomplish once we return. Additionally, staying busy helps the time go by a little quicker for us all. I hope that you are doing all you can to stay busy so that time is moving along for you as well. As always, if there is anything I can do to better serve you, don't hesitate to ask.

Respectfully,

1stSgt Joseph Griffin  
H&S Company

### Promotions

#### July Promotions to Sergeant

Sgt Jeremy Chan

#### H&S Announcements



#### June Promotions to Corporal

Cpl Ian Clifton

#### July Promotions to Corporal

Cpl Matthew Cooper

Cpl Steven Kilpatrick

#### July Promotions to Lance Corporal

LCpl Daniel Asebedo

LCpl Mark Benavidez

LCpl Abelardo Diaz

LCpl David Sepulveda Jr.



Echo Family Readiness Advisor  
Laura McKenzie

## *Echo Company (promotions and photos on Page 6)*

Dear Family and Friends of Company E,

Greetings from Camp Hansen. It is with great pleasure to report that the Marines and Sailors are doing well. We were all a little disappointed that we did not make the Australia training portion of this deployment. However, the Marines have settled in at Camp Hansen and are looking forward to the training that will be conducted here on the island.

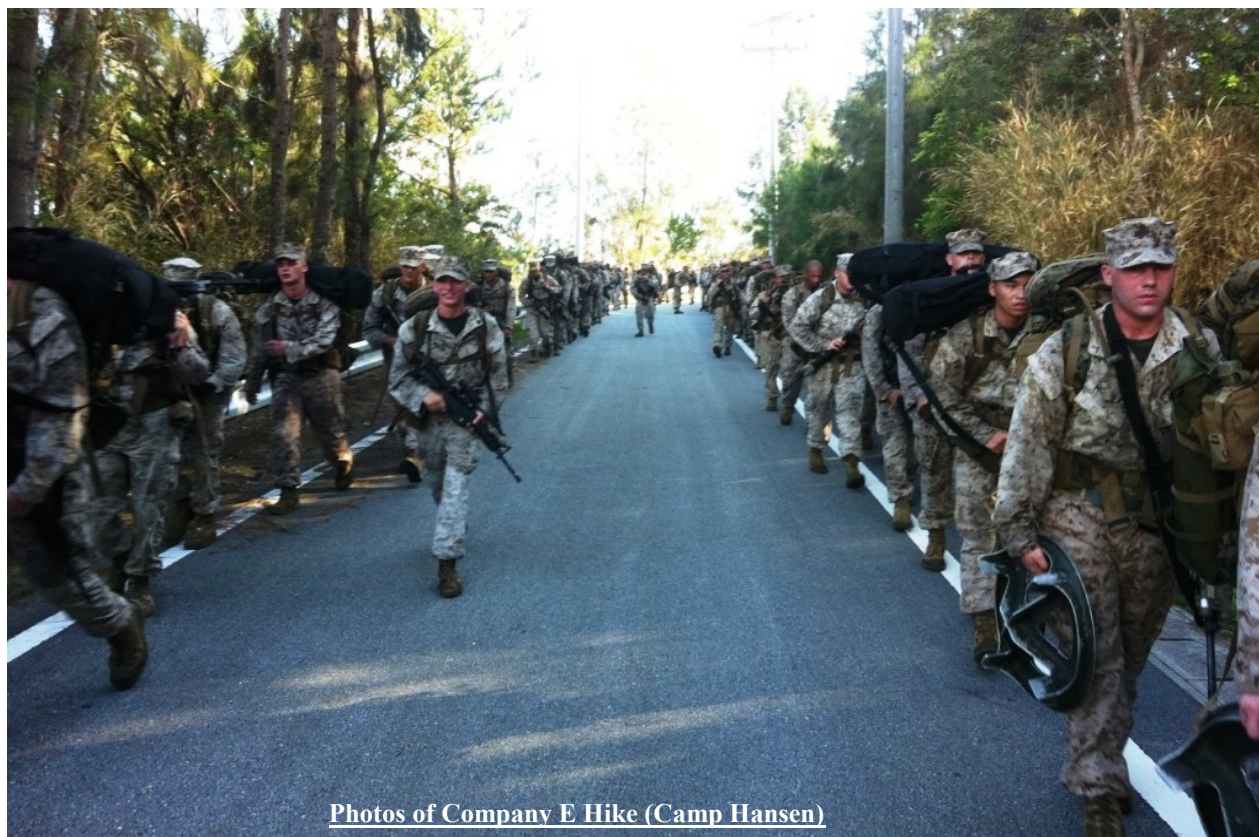
On the 15<sup>th</sup> of July, we conducted a 6 mile conditioning hike. The Marines did a fantastic job. Currently the company is preparing for the first field training event aboard Camp Hansen. For this week we are going to conduct Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) and finish up with a company sized urban raid. We will then transition to the live fire ranges for the rest of the month where we plan to sharpen our combat and marksmanship skills.

In closing, the Marines and Sailors are motivated, eager to get out and start training again and have proved they are flexible and ready for any contingency. Thank you for your continued support. It has been a great contributor to their overall success.

Captain McKenzie R. P.  
Commanding Officer  
Company E "The Empire"

### BLT Mailing Address

Rank & name  
2/7 E CO  
Unit 41550  
FPO AP 96609-1550



Photos of Company E Hike (Camp Hansen)



## Promotions to Lance Corporal:

LCPL Timothy M. Gates  
LCPL Alberto J. Palacios  
LCPL Shane M. McNeeley  
LCPL Elijah C. Slack

## Promotions to Corporal:

CPL Blake W. Stewart  
CPL Matthew P. Owens  
CPL Brian E. Holt

## Awards

### *Good Conduct Medal*

CPL	NATHANAEL	ALONGI
CPL	JORDAN	BAKER
CPL	EVAN	CULVER
CPL	BRETT	DEAN
CPL	BRAIN	FISHER
CPL	MATTHEW	FRATICELLI
CPL	MARK	HANNAH
CPL	FRANCISCO	HERNADEZ
CPL	ERICK	JUAREZ
CPL	ANDREW	RIKER
CPL	MARCO	SOTO
CPL	BLAKE	STEWART
LCPL	JEFFREY	ALSUP
LCPL	CHRISTOPHER	ARMAND
LCPL	JACK	BEGAY
LCPL	JOHN	BRADY
LCPL	KAYNE	BROWN
LCPL	RICARDO	CASTILLO
LCPL	JOEL	CASTRO
LCPL	AVERY	COOPER
LCPL	LEE	DEXTER
LCPL	NICHOLAS	HASZELWONDER
LCPL	TYLER	HEISEY
LCPL	TAYLOR	JASPER
LCPL	ANDREW	JOHNSON
LCPL	SEAN	KELSO
LCPL	DAVID	KERLIN

LCPL	JUSTIN	LAROUX
LCPL	ANTHONY	LAYNE
LCPL	LUIS	LOMELI
LCPL	AARON	MACZYNSKI
LCPL	TREY	MANGHAM
LCPL	WILLIAM	MCPMAHON
LCPL	RICK	MCTAGGART
LCPL	MATTHEW	MEGENHARDT
LCPL	KRISTOPHER	MERCADO
LCPL	TAYLOR	MILES
LCPL	ALEX	MODESITT
LCPL	JOHN	MOMAN
LCPL	RADOSLAW	OLESKY
LCPL	PATRICK	OLLEY
LCPL	MATTHEW	OWENS
LCPL	LUKE	ROSS
LCPL	BOWEN	RYAN
LCPL	LOUIS	SANDOVAL
LCPL	BRYAN	SCHAEFFER
LCPL	JOSHUA	SMITH
LCPL	HARLAN	SPURGIN
LCPL	ADAM	STECKER
LCPL	TAD	TANAKATSUBO
LCPL	JORDAN	TAYLOR
LCPL	JACOB	TRANER
LCPL	KYLE	WHITLOW
LCPL	NICHOLAS	ZANOLINI
LCPL	TAD	TANAKATSUBO
LCPL	JORDAN	TAYLOR
LCPL	JACOB	TRANER
LCPL	KYLE	WHITLOW
LCPL	NICHOLAS	ZANOLINI



Photos of Company E Hike (Camp Hansen)

## **Baby News!!**



LCpl Alex Modesitt and spouse are proud parents to baby born on July 7, 2011





## *Fox Company*



Dear Raider Families,

The month of July has been full of good training for your Marines. It started off with a Company BBQ and softball tournament. Weapons platoon ended up beating out 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon in the final game. Additionally, Lt Walz and Lt Christopher roasted an entire pig which proved to be a big success. The company then departed on a '96 (4-day holiday) for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend.

Upon our return, we went straight to the field for a rifle and machine gun shoot. After two days out, we began preparing for a small boat raid...what "Raiders" do best. In the late hours of Thursday night, 14 July, the entire company loaded up into our 18 CRRs (zodiac boats) and made an 12 nm movement over the open ocean to a beach we had never been to before. The company silently inserted our scout swimmers to secure the beach head and then conducted a clandestine landing under the noses of a notional enemy force. After destroying the enemy force and securing the objective, we withdrew back to our boats and moved back across the open ocean to our friendly lines. Your Marines did a fantastic job once again! It should fill your heart with pride knowing your men are carrying on the Raider legacy.

The following week also proved to have some excitement as we had the opportunity to throw some hand grenades, shoot the M203 Grenade Launcher, and fire our medium machine guns. Marines are never more motivated than when they get to blow something up, and that's exactly what we did!

As the month comes to a close, we are conducting final preparations and rehearsals for some "far out" training. You'll have to stay posted for next month's letter to get the exciting details.

As for you back home, please know that we, your Marines and Sailor, truly appreciate all you are doing to manage the home front. I don't think anyone would argue the fact that you have the tougher job. And it is because of your love and support that we are able to thrive while forward deployed. Please accept my sincerest 'THANK YOU!' As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at [john.a.dalby@usmc.mil](mailto:john.a.dalby@usmc.mil) if you should have any questions or concerns.

Semper Fidelis,  
Captain John A. Dalby  
Company Commander  
Fox Company  
"Raiders"

### Promotions

#### July Promotions to Lance Corporal

LCpl Winkler  
LCpl Phelps

#### BLT Mailing Address

Rank & name  
2/7 Fox CO  
Unit 41555  
FPO AP 96609-1555



Fox Family Readiness Advisor  
[Leanne Frederiksen](#)



## *Fox Company (continued from page 7)*

### *Advisor's Corner*

Hello to our Marines, Spouses, Family Members!

I hope everyone's Deployment is moving at a swift pace! And that Summer is finding you well! If you are here in the desert...things are beginning to heat up...we had a bit of a mild warm up and now, Summer is showing her True Colors! So I find that it is a Prime Time to get out to the Pool, head over to Soak City, and even make a trip to SeaWorld! These are all fun events in the works for our Get Out of the Hole Events! I would also like to encourage our Fox Family to take as many pictures during our Deployment as possible! Whether you are here or not – we want to see what fun things you have been doing! Our "Cruise Book" committee will be formed soon to make a beautiful book for the 2/7 Office.

One side note – I would like to Encourage ALL Spouses & Family Members to take the LINKS classes. These classes are not only EXTREMELY Informative, but REALLY fun as well! You will not be disappointed!

I hope everyone has a Fantastic Month & please ask FRO for my contact information, I would LOVE to get to know our Family!

Leanne Frederiksen,  
Fox Company Advisor





**Golf Family Readiness Advisor**  
Brenda Eadie

## *Golf Company*



To the Families and Friends of Golf Company, CAAT-1, and LAR platoon,

Your Marines and Sailors have been extremely busy on board ship. Your men have been working around the clock preparing, rehearsing and planning for our mission. I know communication has been scarce and it will be non-existent at times. Rest assured when ever your men have the opportunity they will call or email you. Time off in the past month has been less than a day and a half on land. We have some very important and exciting training underway and I look forward to giving you all the details AFTER it is complete. I have included some photos of a portion of the training your Marines and Sailors have been doing while underway.

After arriving in Okinawa, the Gunfighters began focusing on physical fitness, weapons maintenance, and preparing to board the USS Germantown. The company set sail on 28 June headed south toward Australia to participate in Exercise Talisman Sabre 2011. Before entering Australia, our weapons and gear had to be thoroughly inspected (via a rigorous and sometimes annoying process known as Australian Quarantine Inspection Services), and as a result, the Marines were able to enjoy an unexpected liberty port in Townsville, a beautiful beach city in the state of Queensland. While we have been on ship, we have been conducting gun drills, learning shipboard emergency procedures, and trying to learn our way around the ship without getting lost.

Our introduction to the high seas began with a RAS (Resupply at Sea) with the USMS John Ericsson. This ability allows us to continue to stay continuously underway, patrolling the Western Pacific and conducting our security mission unimpeded. The crew of the USS Germantown has been extremely helpful and willing to support the Marines in every way: working with our Navy brethren helps remind us of the importance of our Blue-Green Team relationship and how its synergistic effect projects US Naval Power aboard.

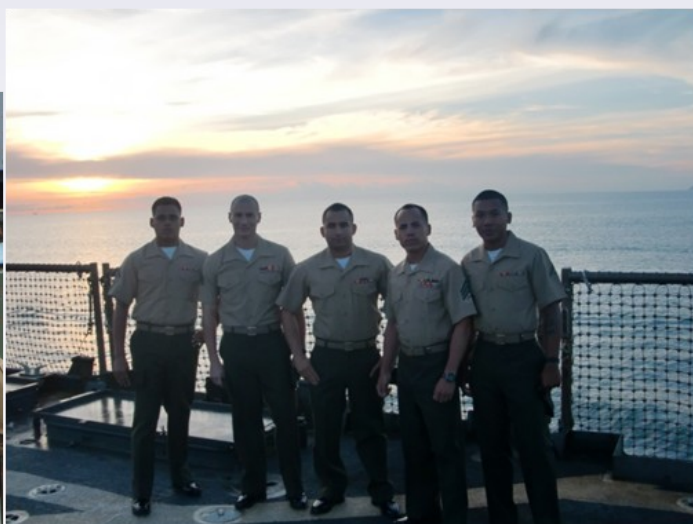
Finally, the Gunfighters welcomed many newly promoted Marines into the fold in the month of July, with several attaining the rank of Corporal to join the NCO ranks. Most of these Marines have been with Company G for some time now, and it was a proud moment for many involved to see these young men achieve such a highly coveted rank. As we continue training and prepare to go ashore, the Gunfighters send their best to loved ones back home, and ask that you keep us in your prayers.

OPSEC is essential to our mission success and the safety of your men. Once again thank you for your continued support that you all provide. Successful men are often the result of supportive family back home.

Semper Fi!  
Capt Michaiah M. McCollum

### **BLT Mailing Address**

Marines Name  
BLT 2/7 Golf CO  
Unit 41560  
FPO AP 96609-1564



## *Golf Company (continued from page 9)*



### **FIRST SERGEANT'S CORNER**

As we carry out the missions the United States of America has ask of your loved ones, I would like to commend all the families and friends for their tireless efforts and support. These Marines have undergone some rigorous training in exotic countries representing the Red, White and Blue with pride. I cannot thank them or you enough for your sacrifices daily. I know from time to time things get discouraging when you don't hear from your love ones, but just know that they are representing you well throughout the world.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, mail has been at a standstill for a while. With the complexities associated with our mission right now, please know that we are doing everything we can to keep you in contact with your Men while mail catches up to us. We will continue to push information out via our Commanders to the Battalion Family Readiness Officer (Mrs. Johnson) and Golf Company's Advisor (Mrs. Eadie), keeping you up to speed with the professional development and international inter-action of your Marines and Sailors.

Remember, the sacrifices we endure today, make us better and stronger Men and Women of the tomorrow. Continue charging and Semper Fi.

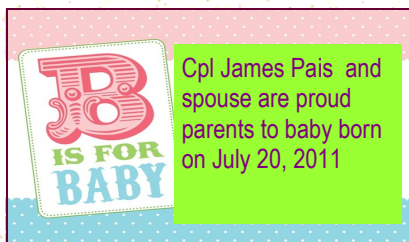
Very Respectfully,  
First Sergeant Kreston L. Monroe  
Golf Company

### **Announcements**

LCpl Andrew S. Cypher was selected as Marine of the Quarter for Golf Compan

Cpl Addison G. Huck was selected as Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter for Battalion Landing Team 2/7

### **Congratulation on your New Baby!**



### **Awards**

#### **Regular Promotions to Corporal:**

Cpl Mario A. Esquivel Jr.  
Cpl Alejandro B. Juarez  
Cpl Sou C. Saephan  
Cpl Ethan D. Sullivan  
Cpl Trevor L. Ray  
Cpl Bart C. Pryor,  
Cpl James E. Eaton

Cpl Huck received a Certificate of Commendation

#### **Regular Promotions to Lance Corporal:**

LCpl Josh Gunneson  
LCpl Larry G. Voigt  
LCpl Chase J. Coleman  
LCpl Nicholas J. Genovese

***Great Job Marines...you've earned it!***





## *Weapons Company*

**Weapons Family Readiness Advisor**  
Colleen Navia

*Dear Family and Friends of Weapons Company,*

*We have been deployed for just over a month so far, but the tempo of the training and traveling has made the time seem four times as long. Your Marines have been all over the MEU's Facebook and webpage, so hopefully you were able to download some good pictures of your husband, son, boyfriend, or friend. They have been doing a great job both during training and during liberty.*

*Weapons Company, by design, has the mission of supporting the Battalion and the independent Rifle Companies—Echo, Fox, and Golf. That means that depending on the mission, platoons can be attached to a completely different Company for whatever duration the mission requires. The past month has been indicative of the Weapons Company way of life. We started with the whole Company embarked on the USS Essex and the USS Germantown. We were sailing to Australia for some great training and some liberty in Townsville and Sydney. It was many of the Marines' first times on Navy ships, so there was a lot of excitement and anticipation of the unknown. After about a week, the Headquarters Platoon, CAAT 2, and 81mm mortar platoon got retasked to return to Okinawa. At that point, LAR and CAAT 1 remained with the USS Germantown to participate in the amphibious assault during Talisman Saber 11. After a few days, the 81mm mortars and some enablers flew to Talisman Saber to participate in a much anticipated joint, live-fire exercise. As of this writing, CAAT 1 and LAR are just beginning their portion of Talisman Saber and the 81mm mortars have returned to Okinawa. CAAT 2 has been doing combat lifesaver training and HMWWV (Hummvee) licensing. If it seems like a whirlwind of activity, it is. Your Marines have been very flexible as our missions and requirements change. It is the nature of any Weapons Company, and it is especially true of a Company on a MEU. We have to be ready for anything.*

*You may ask "What does my Marine do every day on the ship?" The reports that I receive talk about lots of maintenance on their weapons, vehicles, and numerous machinegun drills. It is very similar to being back here in Okinawa, except the space on ship is at a premium. While we are working on our vehicles and weapons back here in Okinawa, the Marines on ship are getting comfortable being in the uncomfortable confines of their vehicles while it is chained inside the well-deck of the ship. Additionally, the ship has its own schedule, so CAAT 1 and LAR have to be very flexible about when they work. It is a new experience that most of them will never forget.*

*On the other hand, what does your Marine do at Camp Hansen? It is very much the same thing as on ship, except the space is nearly infinite, and they have the opportunity to conduct drills and maintenance at any time. We are getting ready to conduct some live-fire ranges at the end of July, so things will become a little more interesting. Additionally, the Marines have access to more "civilization" than the Marines on ship. Regardless of location, the Marines are training and preparing for any contingency.*

*Hopefully, you have been able to follow your Marines on the 31<sup>st</sup> MEU's Facebook page or another website. You should be proud of their performance, professionalism, and maturity. Also, thank you for all of your support that you have given us. The support means a lot, and the Marines check the comments nearly every day.*

*Semper Fidelis,  
Zeb Philpott  
Capt USMC*

**BLT Mailing Address**  
Rank & name  
2/7 Weapons CO  
Unit 41565  
FPO AP 96609-1565



## *Weapons Company (continued from page 11)*

### Promotion to Sergeant

Sgt Jorge Stewart



### Promotions to Corporal

Cpl Arthur Flores  
Cpl Mitchell Kemp  
Cpl Florencio Tejada  
Cpl Travis Tilseth  
Cpl John Tyree

### Promotion to Lance Corporal

LCpl Alex Bilanow  
LCpl Kyle Cluck  
LCpl Marc Duggan  
LCpl Blake Kimball  
LCpl Dwight McPherson  
LCpl Kyle Niedzwicki  
LCpl Jarred Sass  
LCpl Aaron Stanislav

### Battalion Marine of the Quarter

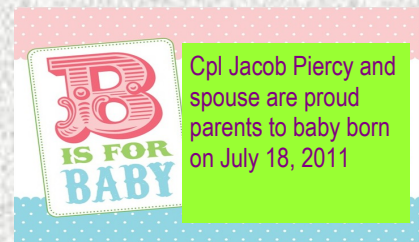
LCpl Jeremey Carlson

### Marine Corps Good Conduct Medals

(presented for 3 years of honorable service)

Sgt Alan Bazan	LCpl Joshua Bogle
Sgt David Gill	LCpl Troy Rose
Cpl Cody Diedrich	LCpl Kenneth Ramsey
Cpl John Tyree	LCpl Alex Page
Cpl Marc Roberts	LCpl Pedro Hernandez
Cpl Samuel Potenti	LCpl Lyle Ellis
Cpl Mitchell Kemp	LCpl Dustin Selig
Cpl Kelley Hawk	LCpl Brian McCubbin
Cpl Florencio Tejada	LCpl Rainer Bolduc
Cpl Jedediah Stock	LCpl Brendan Holland
Cpl O'Connor Dale	LCpl Ryan Lankford
Cpl Ismael Cardona	LCpl Brett Clarich
Cpl Kyle March	LCpl Kyle Cissell
Cpl Jonathan Tucker	LCpl Jonathan Curtner
LCpl Bryan Diaz	LCpl Nathan Fall
LCpl Jeremy Carlson	LCpl Joel Ramirez
LCpl Jacob Cameron	

### Announcements





## **BLT Mailing Address**

Rank & Name  
2/7 Kilo Battery  
Unit 41564  
FPO AP 96609-1564

2ND BATTALION, 7TH MARINES

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**Kilo Battery Family Readiness Advisor**  
**Sable LeBlanc**



## *Kilo Battery*

To the family and friends of Kilo Battery,

The Marines and Sailors of Kilo Battery have been busy, as usual, over the first month of the deployment. All did an outstanding job embarking their section's gear on the high speed vessel (HSV) for transit to Camp Fuji on mainland Japan. During the exercise, the battery shot a little more than 1000 artillery rounds and conducted a machine gun shoot for sustainment training.

After the live fire was complete, the battery earned some much needed liberty in Tokyo. We were able to enjoy the sights, shopping, culture, and dining. After visiting the world's most populous city, we all climbed the highest point in Japan – Mt. Fuji! Most wore shorts and t-shirts at the base of the mountain and froze when we reached the summit! Snow was still present and four Marines were promoted at the top.

Our time in mainland Japan came to an end and we had to return to Okinawa. Again, the Marines and Sailors did a superb job embarking the gear, convoying from Fuji to the port, and loading the HSV. Seas were rough on the return and we learned why the ship's nickname was the vomit comet!

The Battery will be heading out the door soon to Korea for amphibious training on the USS Denver. We will also remain occupied with Marines earning their HMMWV license, the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, and additional ranges for live fire.

We appreciate the support from home and hope you check in with us often on the Battery facebook site at:

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kilo-Battery-3rd-Battalion-11th-](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kilo-Battery-3rd-Battalion-11th-Marines/144001715673130)

[Marines/144001715673130](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kilo-Battery-3rd-Battalion-11th-Marines/144001715673130)

1stSgt Flynn has done an outstanding job keeping all informed with current, near real time updates. And he loves requests for pictures of your loved one if you don't see them! Semper Fi and God bless!

Semper Fi!

Captain Eric Williams  
Commanding Officer  
Kilo Battery

## **Promotions**

### **July Promotion to Sergeant**

Sgt Nabel N. Alawar

### **July Promotion to First Lieutenant**

1stLt D.S. Anderson

### **July Promotions to Corporal**

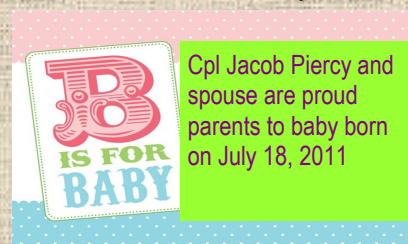
Cpl Matthew L. Anderson  
Cpl Jacobs W. Bradley  
Cpl Wesley J. Brinegar  
Cpl Manuel A. Bravo  
Cpl Gregory T. Thompson

## **Awards**

### **Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal**

Sgt	Daniel	Dominguez
LCpl	Luther	R. Rogers, IV
Cpl	Matthew	L. Anderson
Cpl	George	A. Arthor
Cpl	Chad	E. Bechard
Cpl	Greoffrey	L. Brandt
Cpl	Josue	J. Cruz
Cpl	Christopher	J. Grasteit
Cpl	Juan	A. Hernandez
Cpl	Adam	F. Jesse
Cpl	Treston	S. Koehler
Cpl	Danny	R. Pierce
Cpl	Justin	M. Whitmire

## **New Kilo Baby!**



**2ND BATTALION, 7TH MARINES**

**\*IMPORTANT NOTICE\***

2D Battalion, 7th Marines  
ATTN: Family Readiness Officer  
Box 788262  
Twentynine Palms, CA 92278

Carrie Johnson  
Office: 760-830-5872  
Work Cell: 760-910-5219  
E-mail: [carrie.a.johnson@usmc.mil](mailto:carrie.a.johnson@usmc.mil)

Please ensure your Marine / Sailor has added your contact information into the new Family Readiness module in MOL (Marine OnLine) as this will ensure you are kept informed of deployment and current events. The system only handles e-mail messages at this time.

<< Contact the FRO, Carrie Johnson with any concerns/issues.>>

Next Newsletter: September 2011

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<http://www.i-mef.usmc.mil/external/1stmardiv/7thmarregt/2-7/>  
Information Hotline: (760) 830-1538, option 2  
(800) 759-7602, option 2

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DISCLAIMER: PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT ALL DATES ARE ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE! NO MATTER HOW HARD WE TRY TO GIVE YOU ACCURATE INFORMATION, CHANGE IS WITHIN THE NATURE OF WHAT WE DO. EVENTS WILL BE ADVERTISED CLOSER TO THEIR ACTUAL DATE WITH SPECIFIC DETAILS. FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE FRO TO VERIFY DATES BEFORE MAKING PLANS.